

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Energy Training Partnership Grants

Recovery Act: Competitive Grants for Green Job Training

On February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) to preserve and create jobs, promote the nation's economic recovery, and assist those most impacted by the recession. The purpose of these grants is to teach workers the skills required in emerging industries including energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Energy Training Partnership Grants Overview

The Energy Training Partnership grant program will provide training for workers that prepare them to enter the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, as well as green occupations within other industries. These grants invest in partnerships made up of diverse set of stakeholders including labor organizations, public or private employers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, and the workforce system. Bringing together the workforce expertise of these groups will allow grantees to develop programs that are responsive to the needs of both workers and employers, and that provide participants with the support needed to successfully complete training. The grantees will utilize these partnerships to design and distribute training approaches that lead to portable industry credentials and employment, including registered apprenticeship. The Department of Labor awarded grants to workforce development projects that focused on connecting target populations to career pathways in green industries. The Department also was interested in projects that contributed to our understanding of green industries and jobs that clean and enhance our environment.

These investments are designed to achieve the following goals: Provide training and placement services in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries for workers impacted by national energy and environmental policy, individuals in need of updated training related to the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, and unemployed workers. All training and placement activities funded through this grant program, will be conducted at the local level. A portion of the total funds—approximately \$25 million—are reserved for projects that will serve communities impacted by automotive industry related restructuring.

Missouri Awardees

Grantee: UAW-Labor Employment and Training Corporation (UAW-LETC)

Location: St. Louis and St. Charles Counties

Industries of Focus: Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy

Amount of Grant: \$3,200,000

Key Partnerships: St. Louis Community College, St. Charles Community College, Missouri Department of Economic Development, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, St. Louis Economic Development Council, St. Charles County Economic Development Center, St. Charles

County, St. Louis County and City Workforce Investment Boards, Regional Collaboration Center, General Motors, and St. Louis Auto Dealership Association.

Project Description: The grantee will retrain dislocated and incumbent automotive and auto-related workers for employment in energy efficiency and clean energy sectors. Participants will complete training in four career pathways that include Hybrid/Electric Auto Technician, Electric Auto/Truck Battery Technician, Electric Motors/Devices Technician, and Commercial energy Technician. The grantee will develop a Green Portal Program that participants will access for career exploration in green industries, career assessment, labor market information, and job search assistance.

Proposed Outcomes: The grantee will develop customized training curricula in the four designated career pathways and will train approximately 430 dislocated and incumbent workers in occupations in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

Contact: Robert Nelson, 721 Dunn Road, St. Louis, MO 63402. Phone: (562) 989-7700. E-mail: bnelson@letc.com

Grantee: International Training Institute for the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Industry

Location: St. Louis County, Missouri (and other states)

Industries of Focus: Energy Efficiency Building Construction and Retrofitting

Amount of Grant: \$4,995,188

Key Partnerships: Sheet Metal Workers International Association and local affiliate organizations, Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors National Association and local affiliate organizations, Joint Apprenticeship Training Center, and 13 Workforce Investment Boards and One-Stop Career Centers.

Project Description: The grantee will prepare the unemployed and incumbent sheet metal workforce for careers in the energy efficient building construction, retrofitting, and manufacturing through a series of customized training courses that address the skills gap of the targeted workforce. Training will feature three areas of instruction: 1) Advanced Building Information Modeling, 2) HVAC Testing, Adjusting, and Balancing, and 3) Phenolic Installation.

Proposed Outcomes: the grantee anticipates that 1,200 sheet metal workers will successfully complete customized training and transition into employment in energy efficient occupations.

Contact: James Shoulders, 601 North Fairfax Street, Suite 240, Alexandria, VA. Phone: (703) 299-5620. E-mail: jshoulders@sheetmetal-iti.org